

June 19, 2017

VIA ECFS

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary
445 12th Street, SW
Room TW-A325
Washington, DC 20554

**RE: Wes-Tex Telecommunications, Ltd. d/b/a Westex Telecom, SAC 449014
Submission of FCC Form 481 Annual Report
WC Docket No. 14-58 - ETC Annual Reports and Certifications**

Dear Ms. Dortch:

Wes-Tex Telecommunications, Ltd., Study Area Code 449014, hereby files its FCC Form 481 - Carrier Annual Reporting Data Collection Form in compliance with 47 C.F.R. § 54.422.

The FCC Form 481 has also been filed with the Universal Service Administrative Company and with the relevant state commissions and Tribal governments, as appropriate.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Dorothy Young
Authorized Representative for
Wes-Tex Telecommunications, Ltd. d/ b/a Westex Telecom

DY/kr

cc: Darren Patrick, Wes-Tex Telecommunications, Ltd. d/ b/a Westex Telecom

**FCC Form 481 - Carrier Annual Reporting
Data Collection Form**FCC Form 481
OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819
July 2013

<010>	Study Area Code	449014
<015>	Study Area Name	Wes-Tex Telecommunications Ltd.
<020>	Program Year	2018
<030>	Contact Name: Person USAC should contact with questions about this data	Darren Patrick
<035>	Contact Telephone Number: Number of the person identified in data line <030>	4327563393 ext.
<039>	Contact Email Address: Email of the person identified in data line <030>	dpatrick@westex.coop
	Form Type	54.422

<010>	Study Area Code	449014
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<020>	Program Year	2018
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[illegible]

**(300) Unfulfilled Service Request
Data Collection Form**FCC Form 481
OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819
July 2013

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<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	dpatrick@westex.coop

<300> Unfulfilled service request (voice)

<310> Detail on attempts (voice)

Name of Attached Document

<320> Unfulfilled service request (broadband)

<330> Detail on attempts (broadband)

Name of Attached Document

<010>	Study Area Code	449014
<015>	Study Area Name	Wes-Tex Telecommunications Ltd.
<020>	Program Year	2018
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Darren Patrick
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	4327563393 ext.
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	dpatrick@westex.coop
<400>	Select from the drop-down list to indicate how you would like to report voice complaints (zero or greater) for voice telephony service in the prior calendar year for each service area in which you are designated an ETC for any facilities you own, operate, lease, or otherwise utilize.	
<410>	Complaints per 1000 customers for fixed voice	
<420>	Complaints per 1000 customers for mobile voice	
<430>	Select from the drop-down list to indicate how you would like to report end-user customer complaints (zero or greater) for broadband service in the prior calendar year for each service area in which you are designated an ETC for any facilities you own, operate, lease, or otherwise utilize.	
<440>	Complaints per 1000 customers for fixed broadband	
<450>	Complaints per 1000 customers for mobile broadband	

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<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	dpatrick@westex.coop
<500>	Certify compliance with applicable service quality standards and consumer protection rules	
<510>	Descriptive document for Service Quality Standards & Consumer Protection Rules Compliance	
<515>	Certify compliance with applicable minimum service standards	

(600) Functionality in Emergency Situations		FCC Form 481
Data Collection Form		OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819
		July 2013

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<600>	Certify compliance regarding ability to function in emergency situations	
<610>	Descriptive document for Functionality in Emergency Situations	

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July 2013

OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819

OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819

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<701>	Residential Local Service Charge Effective Date	1/1/2017
<702>	Single State-wide Residential Local Service Charge	

[illegible]

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**(800) Operating Companies
Data Collection Form**

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<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	dpatrick@westex.coop
<810>	Reporting Carrier	Wes-Tex Telecommunications Ltd
<811>	Holding Company	Wes-Tex Telecom Holdings, LLC
<812>	Operating Company	Wes-Tex Telecommunications Ltd

[illegible]

**(900) Tribal Lands Reporting
Data Collection Form**

 FCC Form 481
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<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	dpatrick@westex.coop

<900> Does the filing entity offer tribal land services? (Y/N)

<910> Tribal Land(s) on which ETC Serves

<920> Tribal Government Engagement Obligation

Name of Attached Document

If your company serves Tribal lands, please select (Yes, No, NA) for each these boxes to confirm the status described on the attached PDF, on line 920, demonstrates coordination with the Tribal government pursuant to § 54.313(a)(9) includes:

- <921> Needs assessment and deployment planning with a focus on Tribal community anchor institutions.
- <922> Feasibility and sustainability planning;
- <923> Marketing services in a culturally sensitive manner;
- <924> Compliance with Rights of way processes
- <925> Compliance with Land Use permitting requirements
- <926> Compliance with Facilities Siting rules
- <927> Compliance with Environmental Review processes
- <928> Compliance with Cultural Preservation review processes
- <929> Compliance with Tribal Business and Licensing requirements.

Select Yes or No or Not Applicable

**(1000) Voice and Broadband Service Rate Comparability
Data Collection Form**

FCC Form 481

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<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	dpatrick@westex.coop

<1000> Voice services rate comparability certification

<1010> Attach detailed description for voice services rate comparability compliance

Name of Attached Document

<1020> Broadband comparability certification

<1030> Attach detailed description for broadband comparability compliance

Name of Attached Document

**(1100) No Terrestrial Backhaul Reporting
Data Collection Form**

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<1100> Certify whether terrestrial backhaul options exist (Y/N)

<1130> Please select the appropriate response (Yes, No, Not Applicable) to confirm the reporting carrier offers broadband service of at least 1 Mbps downstream and 256 kbps upstream within the supported area pursuant to § 54.313(g).

(1200) Terms and Condition for Lifeline Customers
Lifeline
Data Collection Form

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449014tx1210.pdf

<1210> Terms & Conditions of Voice Telephony Lifeline Plans

Name of Attached Document

<1220> Link to Public Website

HTTP

"Please check these boxes below to confirm that the attached document(s), on line 1210, or the website listed, on line 1220, contains the required information pursuant to § 54.422(a)(2) annual reporting for ETCs receiving low-income support, carriers must annually report:

- | | | |
|--------|---|-------------------------------------|
| <1221> | Information describing the terms and conditions of any voice telephony service plans offered to Lifeline subscribers, | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <1222> | Details on the number of minutes provided as part of the plan, | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <1223> | Additional charges for toll calls, and rates for each such plan. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

(2005) Price Cap Carrier Additional Documentation

FCC Form 481

Data Collection Form

OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819

Including Rate-of-Return Carriers affiliated with Price Cap Local Exchange Carriers

July 2013

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Select the appropriate responses below (Yes, No, Not Applicable) to note compliance as a recipient of Incremental High Cost support, High Cost support to offset access charge reductions, and Connect America Phase II support as set forth in 47 CFR § 54.313(b),(c),(d),(e). The information reported on this form and in the documents attached below is accurate.

Incremental Connect America Phase I reporting

- <2011> 3rd Year Certification 47 CFR §54.313(b)(1)(ii) - Note that for the July 2017 certification, this applies to Round 2 recipients of Incremental Support.
- <2022> Recipient certifies, representing year three after filing a notice of acceptance of funding pursuant to 54.312(c), that the locations in question are not receiving support under the Broadband Initiatives Program or the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program for projects that will provide broadband with speeds of at least 4 Mbps/1Mbps - 54.313(b)(2)(i). Round 2 recipients only.
- <2023> The attachment on line 2024 includes a statement of the total amount of capital funding expended in the previous year in meeting Connect America Phase I deployment obligations, accompanied by a list of census blocks indicating where funding was spent. This covers year three - 54.313(b)(2)(ii). Round 2 recipients only.
- <2024A> Round 2 Recipient of Incremental Support?
- <2024B> Attach list of census blocks indicating where funding was spent in year three - 54.313(b)(2)(ii). Round 2 recipients only.
- <2025A> Round 2 Recipient of Incremental Support?
- <2025B> Attach geocoded Information for Phase I milestone reports (Round 2 for year three) - Connect America Fund , WC Docket 10-90, Report and Order, FCC 13-73, paragraph 35 (May 22, 2013).
- <2015> 2016 and future Frozen Support Certification 47 CFR § 54.313(c)(4)

Name of Attached Document Listing
Required Information

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Required Information

(2005) Price Cap Carrier Additional Documentation

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July 2013

Price Cap Carrier Connect America ICC Support {47 CFR § 54.313(d)}

<2016> Certification support used to build broadband

Connect America Phase II Reporting {47 CFR § 54.313(e)}

<2017A> Connect America Fund Phase II recipient?

<2017C> Total amount of Phase II support, if any, the price cap carrier used for capital expenditures in 2016.

<2018> Attach the number, names, and addresses of community anchor institutions to which the carrier newly began providing access to broadband service in the preceding calendar year - 54.313(e)(1)(ii)(A)

Name of Attached Document Listing
Required Information

<2019> Recipient certifies that it bid on category one telecommunications and Internet access services in response to all FCC Form 470 postings seeking broadband service that meets the connectivity targets for the schools and libraries universal service support program for eligible schools and libraries located within any area in a census block where the carrier is receiving Phase II model-based support, and that such bids were at rates reasonably comparable to rates charged to eligible schools and libraries in urban areas for comparable offerings - 54.313(e)(1)(ii)(C)

(3005) Rate Of Return Carrier Additional Documentation
Data Collection Form

 FCC Form 481
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Select from the drop down menu or check the boxes below to note compliance with 54.313(f)(1). Privately held carriers must ensure compliance with the financial reporting requirements set forth in 47 CFR 54.313(f)(2). I further certify that the information reported on this form and in the documents attached below is accurate.

(3009)	Progress Report on 5 Year Plan Carrier certifies to 54.313(f)(1)(iii)		
(3010A)	Certification of Public Interest Obligations {47 CFR § 54.313(f)(1)(i)}		
(3010B)	Please Provide Attachment	Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information	<input type="text"/>
(3012A)	Community Anchor Institutions {47 CFR § 54.313(f)(1)(ii)}		
(3012B)	Please Provide Attachment	Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information	<input type="text"/>
(3013)	Is your company a Privately Held ROR Carrier {47 CFR § 54.313(f)(2)}	(Yes/No)	<input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>
(3014)	If yes, does your company file the RUS annual report	(Yes/No)	<input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>
	Please check these boxes to confirm that the attached PDF, on line 3017, contains the required information pursuant to § 54.313(f)(2) compliance requires:		
(3015)	Electronic copy of their annual RUS reports (Operating Report for Telecommunications Borrowers)		<input type="checkbox"/>
(3016)	Document(s) with Balance Sheet, Income Statement and Statement of Cash Flows		<input type="checkbox"/>
(3017)	If the response is yes on line 3014, attach your company's RUS annual report and all required documentation	Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information	<input type="text"/>
(3018)	If the response is no on line 3014, is your company audited?	(Yes/No)	<input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>
	If the response is yes on line 3018, please check the boxes below to confirm your submission on line 3026 pursuant to § 54.313(f)(2), contains:		
(3019)	Either a copy of their audited financial statement; or (2) a financial report in a format comparable to RUS Operating Report for Telecommunications Borrowers		<input type="checkbox"/>
(3020)	Document(s) for Balance Sheet, Income Statement and Statement of Cash Flows		<input type="checkbox"/>
(3021)	Management letter and/or audit opinion issued by the independent certified public accountant that performed the company's financial audit.		<input type="checkbox"/>
	If the response is no on line 3018, please check the boxes below to confirm your submission on line 3026 pursuant to § 54.313(f)(2), contains:		
(3022)	Copy of their financial statement which has been subject to review by an independent certified public accountant; or 2) a financial report in a format comparable to RUS Operating Report for Telecommunications Borrowers		<input type="checkbox"/>
(3023)	Underlying information subjected to a review by an independent certified public accountant		<input type="checkbox"/>
(3024)	Underlying information subjected to an officer certification.		<input type="checkbox"/>
(3025)	Document(s) with Balance Sheet, Income Statement and Statement of Cash Flows		<input type="checkbox"/>
(3026)	Attach the worksheet listing required information	Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information	<input type="text"/>

(3005) Rate Of Return Carrier Additional Documentation (Continued)

FCC Form 481

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Financial Data Summary

(3027) Revenue

(3028) Operating Expenses

(3029) Net Income

(3030) Telephone Plant In Service(TPIS)

(3031) Total Assets

(3032) Total Debt

(3033) Total Equity

(3034) Dividends

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4005 Rural Broadband Experiment

Authorized Rural Broadband Experiment (RBE) recipients must address the certification for public interest obligations, provide a list of newly served community anchor institutions, and provide a list of locations where broadband has been deployed.

Public Interest Obligations – FCC 14-98 (paragraphs 26-29, 78)

Please address Line 4001 regarding compliance with the Commission’s public interest obligations. All RBE participants must provide a response to Line 4001.

4001. Recipient certifies that it is offering broadband to the identified locations meeting the requisite public interest obligations consistent with the category for which they were selected, including broadband speed, latency, usage capacity, and rates that are reasonably comparable to rates for comparable offerings in urban areas?

Community Anchor Institutions – FCC 14-98 (paragraph 79)

4003a. RBE participants must provide the number, names, and addresses of community anchor institutions to which they newly deployed broadband service in the preceding calendar year. On this line, please respond (yes – attach new community anchors, no – no new anchors) to indicate whether this list will be provided.

If yes to 4003A, please provide a response for 4003B.

4003b. Provide the number, names and addresses of community anchor institutions to which the recipient newly began providing access to broadband service in the preceding calendar year.	Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information	
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Broadband Deployment Locations – FCC 14-98 (paragraph 80)

4004a. Attach a list of geocoded locations to which broadband has been deployed as of the June 1st immediately preceding the July 1st filing deadline for the FCC Form 481.	Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information	
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4004b. Attach evidence demonstrating that the recipient is meeting the relevant public service obligations for the identified locations. Materials must at least detail the pricing, offered broadband speed and data usage allowances available in the relevant geographic area.	Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information	
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**Certification - Reporting Carrier
Data Collection Form**

 FCC Form 481
 OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819
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TO BE COMPLETED BY THE REPORTING CARRIER, IF THE REPORTING CARRIER IS FILING ANNUAL REPORTING ON ITS OWN BEHALF:

Certification of Officer as to the Accuracy of the Data Reported for the Annual Reporting for CAF or LI Recipients	
I certify that I am an officer of the reporting carrier; my responsibilities include ensuring the accuracy of the annual reporting requirements for universal service support recipients; and, to the best of my knowledge, the information reported on this form and in any attachments is accurate.	
Name of Reporting Carrier:	
Signature of Authorized Officer:	Date
Printed name of Authorized Officer:	
Title or position of Authorized Officer:	
Telephone number of Authorized Officer:	
Study Area Code of Reporting Carrier:	Filing Due Date for this form:
Persons willfully making false statements on this form can be punished by fine or forfeiture under the Communications Act of 1934, 47 U.S.C. §§ 502, 503(b), or fine or imprisonment under Title 18 of the United States Code, 18 U.S.C. § 1001.	

Certification - Agent / Carrier Data Collection Form	FCC Form 481 OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819 July 2013
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TO BE COMPLETED BY THE REPORTING CARRIER, IF AN AGENT IS FILING ANNUAL REPORTS ON THE CARRIER'S BEHALF:

Certification of Officer to Authorize an Agent to File Annual Reports for CAF or LI Recipients on Behalf of Reporting Carrier	
I certify that (Name of Agent) <u>Moss Adams, LLP</u> is authorized to submit the information reported on behalf of the reporting carrier. I also certify that I am an officer of the reporting carrier; my responsibilities include ensuring the accuracy of the annual data reporting requirements provided to the authorized agent; and, to the best of my knowledge, the reports and data provided to the authorized agent is accurate.	
Name of Authorized Agent:	<u>Moss Adams, LLP</u>
Name of Reporting Carrier:	<u>Wes-Tex Telecommunications Ltd.</u>
Signature of Authorized Officer:	<u>CERTIFIED ONLINE</u> Date: <u>06/08/2017</u>
Printed name of Authorized Officer:	<u>Darren Patrick</u>
Title or position of Authorized Officer:	<u>Executive Vice President</u>
Telephone number of Authorized Officer:	<u>4327563393 ext.</u>
Study Area Code of Reporting Carrier:	<u>449014</u> Filing Due Date for this form: <u>07/03/2017</u>
Persons willfully making false statements on this form can be punished by fine or forfeiture under the Communications Act of 1934, 47 U.S.C. §§ 502, 503(b), or fine or imprisonment under Title 18 of the United States Code, 18 U.S.C. § 1001.	

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE AUTHORIZED AGENT:

Certification of Agent Authorized to File Annual Reports for CAF or LI Recipients on Behalf of Reporting Carrier	
I, as agent for the reporting carrier, certify that I am authorized to submit the annual reports for universal service support recipients on behalf of the reporting carrier; I have provided the data reported herein based on data provided by the reporting carrier; and, to the best of my knowledge, the information reported herein is accurate.	
Name of Reporting Carrier:	<u>Wes-Tex Telecommunications Ltd.</u>
Name of Authorized Agent Firm:	<u>Moss Adams, LLP</u>
Signature of Authorized Agent or Employee of Agent:	<u>CERTIFIED ONLINE</u> Date: <u>06/08/2017</u>
Name of Authorized Agent Employee:	<u>Dorothy A. Young</u>
Title or position of Authorized Agent or Employee of Agent	<u>Telecommunications Consulting Manager</u>
Telephone number of Authorized Agent or Employee of Agent:	<u>5126527726 ext.</u>
Study Area Code of Reporting Carrier:	<u>449014</u> Filing Due Date for this form: <u>07/03/2017</u>
Persons willfully making false statements on this form can be punished by fine or forfeiture under the Communications Act of 1934, 47 U.S.C. §§ 502, 503(b), or fine or imprisonment under Title 18 of the United States Code, 18 U.S.C. § 1001.	

Attachments

Data Collection Form

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<810>	Reporting Carrier	Wes-Tex Telecommunications Ltd
<811>	Holding Company	Wes-Tex Telecom Holdings, LLC
<812>	Operating Company	Wes-Tex Telecommunications Ltd

[illegible]

LINE 1210 – TERMS & CONDITIONS OF VOICE TELEPHONY LIFELINE PLANS

Wes-Tex Telecommunications, Ltd. d/b/a WESTEX Telecom (“the Company”) offers Lifeline-eligible subscribers a discount of \$15.67 on stand-alone local voice telephony service (federal discount of \$9.25 + a state discount of \$3.50 + an additional state reduction of \$2.92).

In the Company’s Stanton exchange, the Lifeline single-line residential local rate, including the federal subscriber line charge (“SLC”), is \$3.06 (\$18.73 standard rate -\$15.67). In the Company’s Big Spring exchange, the Lifeline single-line residential local rate, including the federal SLC, is \$10.28 (\$25.95 standard rate - \$15.67).

All single-line residential customers, including Lifeline customers, have an unlimited number of minutes for calls made within the local calling area.

Additional charges for toll calls are billed at the rates of the long distance carrier chosen by the subscriber. Customers may also elect to subscribe to toll blocking at no charge. The Company will not disconnect the local service of a Lifeline customer for non-payment of toll charges. However, the Company reserves the right to implement toll blocking, at no charge, if the customer incurs a significant balance of unpaid toll bills.

Lifeline Program reductions do not apply to additional services such as custom calling features. Lifeline customers may subscribe to these services, where available, at the same rates offered to other customers.

Lifeline customers may also subscribe to any bundled service package offered by the Company and will receive the same reductions described above for the basic local exchange portion of the bundle. These packages include unlimited local and long distance calling plans, Internet and cable services, as well as a choice of optional custom calling features. Additional information can be found on the Company’s website at <http://www.westex.coop>.

LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

II. APPLICATION OF RATES

A. General

1. The rates and charges listed in this Section apply to Local Exchange Service provided by the Company in its certificated service area as specified by the Company's Service Provider Certificate of Operating Authority application approved and on file with the Public Utility Commission of Texas.
2. The local exchange service rates and charges specified in this Section are for Basic Local Exchange Service and facilities only. Rates and charges for ancillary services and facilities not specified in this Section are presented in other sections of this tariff.
3. Unless otherwise specified, the rates and charges quoted in this Section are for a minimum contract period of one month. These rates and charges are payable in advance and provide unlimited flat rate calling within the exchange area.
4. Local access trunks may be required for local access connections terminating in or for use with some types of customer-provided equipment.

B. Lifeline Program

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1. General

The Lifeline Program is a retail local service offering designed to make telephone service available at reduced rates to qualifying low-income customers.

- a. A qualifying low-income customer subscribing to the Lifeline Program shall receive federal and state reductions to their monthly tariffed residential local exchange access line. When a Lifeline customer subscribes to a package of services, those same reductions will apply to that portion of the package rate that is for basic network service. In a two-line package, only one line will receive the Lifeline reductions.
- b. Nothing in this section shall prohibit a customer who is otherwise eligible for the Lifeline Program from obtaining and using telecommunications equipment and services designed to aid such customer in utilizing qualifying telecommunications services.

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LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

II. APPLICATION OF RATES

B. Lifeline Program (Continued)

1. General (Continued)

- c. The Lifeline Program rate reductions do not apply to surcharges, taxes, long distance service, 976 and other information related telecommunications services, and optional services such as custom calling features. Customers may obtain these services, where available, at their discretion.
- d. The Lifeline Program rate reductions do not apply to service connection charges.
- e. The Company may not disconnect the local service of a Lifeline Program customer for the non-payment of toll charges. However, the Company reserves the right to implement toll blocking, at no charge, if the customer incurs a significant balance of unpaid toll bills. The Company will inform the customer, by direct mail, of this change to their service due to the customer's non-payment of toll charges. Upon the customer's payment of all outstanding toll charges, the Company shall remove the block without additional cost to the customer.
- f. Upon subscribing to the Lifeline Program, a customer will be offered a subscription, at no charge, to toll blocking service or to a limited amount of toll calling (in exchanges where technically available); however, the customer is under no obligation to accept the subscription to toll blocking.

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LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

II. APPLICATION OF RATES

B. Lifeline Program (Continued)

1. General (Continued)

- g. The Company will provide to Customers who apply for or receive Lifeline service access to available vertical services or custom calling features, including Caller ID, Call Waiting, and Call Blocking, at the same price as its other Customers pay, provided that the Company has the capability to provide such services. (T)
- h. The Lifeline Program rate reductions will not be available on a retroactive basis unless approved by the Public Utility Commission of Texas or the Low-Income Discount Administrator (LIDA). (T)

2. Designated Lifeline Program Services

The Company shall offer voice telephony services that provide the following functionalities as designated, Lifeline Program services: ()

- a. Voice grade access to the public switched network or its functional equivalent
- b. Minutes of use for local service provided at no additional charge to the customer
- c. Access to emergency services
- d. Toll blocking service (T)

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LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

II. APPLICATION OF RATES

B. Lifeline Program (Continued)

3. Eligibility Requirement

An eligible customer shall be defined as an individual whose annual household income is at or below 150% of the federal poverty guidelines or in whose household resides . a person who receives or has a child who receives:

- a. Medicaid
- b. Food Stamps (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) (T)
- c. Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- d. Federal Public Housing Assistance (FPHA)
- e. Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)
- £ State Child Health Plan (CHIP)
- g. National School Lunch Program's Free Lunch Program (N)
- h. Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (N)

The Lifeline Program rate reductions will be provided to each eligible customer. The Low-Income Discount Administrator (LIDA) will provide a list of eligible customers to the Company each month.

4. Obligations of the Customer

- a. Customers whose annual household income is at or below 150% of the federal poverty guidelines or who participate in FPHA or LIHEAP programs may self-enroll for Lifeline Program benefits by completing an application form and returning it to LIDA. LIDA will send a blank application upon customer request. LIDA can be reached at 1-866-4LITEUP.
- b. Current customers receiving benefits under Medicaid, Food Stamps, SSI, or CHIP programs will be subject to the Lifeline Program automatic enrollment procedures as provided by the LIDA unless they provide a written request to the LIDA to be excluded from the Lifeline Program.
- c. A customer who is eligible for the Lifeline Program, but does not have telephone service shall be responsible for initiating a request for the Lifeline Program from the Company.

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LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

II. APPLICATION OF RATES

B. Lifeline Program (Continued)

5. Obligations of the Company

- a. LIDA will provide a list of eligible customers to the Company on a monthly basis. Upon receipt of the list, the Company shall begin reduced billing for those customers within 30 days.

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6. Discontinuance of Service

- a. Discontinuance of Lifeline Discounts for customers automatically enrolled: The eligibility period for automatically enrolled customers is the length of their enrollment in TDHS benefits plus a period of 60 days for renewal. Automatically enrolled customers will have an opportunity to renew their TDHS benefits or self-enrollment with LIDA upon the expiration of their automatic enrollment.
- b. Discontinuance of Lifeline Discounts for customers who have self-enrolled: Individuals not receiving benefits through TDHS programs, but who have met Lifeline income qualifications, are eligible to receive the Lifeline Discount for seven months, which includes a period of 60 days during which the customer may renew their eligibility with LIDA for an additional seven months.

7. Deposit and Credit Requirements

- a. The Company shall be prohibited from charging a service deposit in order to initiate the Lifeline Program if the eligible customer voluntarily elects to receive toll blocking.
- b. The Company may charge a service deposit if the eligible customer denies subscription to toll blocking upon subscribing to the Lifeline Program.
- c. In instances where the Company may require a service deposit, the same credit verification procedures and deposit regulations used for all applicants who apply for service with the Company are also applicable to eligible customers for the Lifeline Program.

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LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

II. APPLICATION OF RATES

B. Lifeline Program (Continued)

8. Service Connection Charges

- a. Service connection charges do not apply to eligible customers with existing, qualifying service converting to the Lifeline Program.
- b. Service connection charges do apply when:
 - 1) Existing eligible customers request additional non-qualifying services at the time Lifeline Program reduced billing is initiated.
 - 2) New customers (those without existing local exchange access service) eligible for the Lifeline Program establish service.
 - 3) Customers make subsequent moves or changes after initial connection to the Lifeline Program.

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9. Lifeline Program Rate Reduction

- a. Implementation

The Company shall provide reduced billing to all Lifeline Program eligible customers within its service area in accordance with the Commission's Substantive Rules.

In instances where the customer inquires about participation in the Lifeline Program, the Company shall provide contact information for LIDA.

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LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

II. APPLICATION OF RATES

B. Lifeline Program (Continued)

9. Lifeline Program Rate Reduction (Continued)

b. Amounts

The Company shall apply Lifeline Program rate reductions, per eligible customer, as described below.

	<u>Monthly Rate Reduction</u>	
1) Federal Reduction ¹	\$9.25	(C)
3) Maximum State Reduction to Residential Local Exchange Access Line Rate	\$3.50	
4) Additional State Reduction to Residential Local Exchange Access Line Rate*	\$2.92	(C)

¹ See 47 C.F.R. Section 54.403

*TUSF Settlement Docket No. 40521

(C)

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